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Regenerative & Cellular Sciences

An Interactive Workshop

THE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS

ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Formation of INCUCAI by Resolution 610/2007, which regulates the implantation of cells in human beings.

International Conference, “Regulation of Clinical Research Involving Stem Cells: Learning from the Experiences of the UK”, 29-30 November 2007, Buenos Aires.

International Conference, “Second International Conference on the Regulation of Stem Cells and Human Tissue”, 14 October 2008, Buenos Aires.

Science & Technology Commission of the Deputies Chamber, National Parliament, “Official Communication: Impact in Argentina of President Obama’s policy lifting the funding ban on embryonic stem cell research”.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

To undertake an exercise in foresight (imagining the Argentine and global research and health setting that we desire and taking steps to realise it)

To create a rational, comprehensive, and user-friendly legal/regulatory regime that promotes innovation, channels science toward socially valuable ends, and protects research subjects and patients



WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

‘I want social debates about stem cells, but I think it is not currently an agenda of the government to have this kind of debate. ... [S]ociety needs to think and to express opinions regarding stem cell therapies with embryonic stem cells.’ [Argentine Researcher]

‘I don’t know the view of my country. I have no idea. I could guess, but I don’t know. ... I would like really to know what my country’s people would like to say about [stem cell research]. [We should go ahead and] make some ... guidelines and then see how they are opposed or not But I think there is going to be ... general consensus about the rights of the patient and the way things should be done.’ [Argentine Researcher]

‘[The beginning of life debate] is an extremely forceful debate. I think it is very beneficial. But we have to be very responsible in this because Argentina has a trend to have discussions like a civil war. ... [Y]ou have to discuss and go for a common understanding ... and some days it is not easy for the Argentine society. But ... you have to discuss things. You have to make a debate and you have to go to a conclusion And the attitudes of society ... in this area [are important].’ [Argentine Researcher]

‘[S]cientists should have their own opinion and ethics ... and the law should be a result of discussion amongst all the different actors that are playing this field. And the law is essential for scientists to do their research. But on the other hand I don’t think scientists should just stay in the dark and wait quietly for a law to be passed. So it is essential that we should be an active part of the discussion.’ [Argentine Researcher]



NEXT STEPS?

